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ciated by examination of the volume itself, and the same may be said of the whole series to which it belongs. They are wonderfully cheap as well, - the "Kinderleben" selling for only four marks, with a finer edition at eight marks. Boesch, after noting how long some strange and even cruel customs have lingered in the land, points out that not a few of the finest German Märchen owe their origin to the exposure of infants (p. 13). From page 21 we learn that birth notices in the newspapers date from towards the end of the eighteenth century, and were far less simple than those of to-day. The "Freudmaidli," as the announcer of births to relatives and friends was termed in Schaffhausen, was a very interesting figure. In Swabia the belief seems still to be current that the presence of a sleeping infant protects a house from lightning (p. 37). From the examples on page 45, it would be fair to judge that the rudeness of modern children towards their elders had some brilliant precedents. The cut of the "Zuchtwagen," with its accompanying rhymes, from a Nürnberg broadside of the sixteenth century, treats humorously the difficulties of bringing up children. So, too, the "Tischzucht" on page 54. The section on "bad children" is very good. Nürnberg children's toys were celebrated already in the fourteenth century. The pictures of various sports and games deserve more than passing notice. Among the good and evil characters of the childish pantheon appear Schönbart, Knight Rupert, St. Nicholas, "the child-eater" (who resembles the famous witch with a basket, of the Indians of the North Pacific coast), etc. That the German, like the English boy, "crept like snail unwillingly to school," is evident from confessions of eminent men on page 98. The illustrations of some of the text-books are more ingenious or witty than profitable. The following charm to drive away pain, -

> Heile, heile, Segen, Drei Tag Regen, Drei Tag geht der Wind: Heile, heile, liebs Kind,—

is worth citing here. Some of the pictures of death are characteristically horrible, — Cornelius Teunissen's "Allegory on Instability" is reproduced as a full-page illustration (p. 128). All folk-lorists and those who are not, who take any manner of interest in the folk-reaction to the phenomena of childhood, especially those things which "are a perpetual fountain of youth," will enjoy this book.

A. F. C.

THINGS CHINESE: Being Notes on various Subjects connected with China. By J. DYER BALL, M. R. A. S. Third Edition, Revised and Enlarged. London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd. 1900. Pp. 666 + xxv.

This little encyclopædia, the first edition of which appeared in 1893, contains much in the nature of folk-lore. Among the new rubrics added since the second edition are: Betrothal (pp. 69-92), Birth-customs (pp. 74-77), and Cosmetics.

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